carrying out certain additions/alterations as per the requirements of the Bank. As the landlord failed to do so, the Bank has not enhanced the rent. The Bank has denied any malafide intention in not enhancing the rent.

(d) Does not arise.

Enhancement of pension

2168. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have increased the pension to the extent of a minimum of Rs. 375 p.m.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the pensioners in various States and Union Territories particularly in West Bengal are ot getting this increased pension for a long time; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken by Government to ensure that pensioners in all the States/UTs including the West Bengal pensioners also get this enhanced amount of pension?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) to (c) Minimum pension has been raised to Rs. 375 per month with effect from 1-1-1986 in accordance with orders dated the 5th March, 1987. Instructions were issued to all Pension Disbursing Authorities including those in West Bengal to ensure payment of revised pensions by June 30, 1987.

Liberalisation of refinance scheme by NABARD

2169. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, under new Twenty point Economic programme has liberalised its refinance schemes for individual, partnership concern and also for promotional marketing support for setting up of Buffer godown for storage and marketing of agricultural inputs, fertilizers, pesticides, seeds, agricultural implements, purchases of delivery van etc. and enhance the refinance financial limit in view of the increase prices of various commodities during the last two years; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that scheduled banks are not entertaining refinance requests under 'NABARD' refinance programme from individual partnership concern and other organisations and thus not providing loan application forms with the result that 'NABARD' non-farm activities programme is a total failures; and

(c) what other immediate steps 'NABARD' have taken or propose to take to simplify its non-farm activities and to make its financial assistance programme more attractive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it provides refinance facility to banks for financing construction of storage godowns and market yards by State Warehousing Corporations, cooperative societies/marketing committees in rural areas. NABARD also provides refinance for industrial projects set up by individuals, partnership concerns, public/private limited companies upto a maximum limit of Rs. 5 lakhs by way of composite/integrated loans. Bank loans to promotional organisations such as registered/charitable institutions, quasi-government promotional agencies, for setting up of infrastructural facilities, including purchase of delivery vans/trucks, for supply of raw materials and for providing market and technology support are eligible for refinance. NABARD refinance is also available to commercial banks and regional rural banks for extending finacial support to artisans and tiny entrepreneurs